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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Plaintiff, v. MIGUEL ALVAREZ-MEZA, Defendant.	Case No. 08cr0246 JM DECLARATION OF MIGUEL ALVAREZ-MEZA SHOWING PREJUDICE FROM ALLEGED DEPORTATION

Under penalty of perjury, I, Miguel Alvarez-Meza, declare as follows:

1. I was born on October 18, 1977.

2. I was barely 19 years old on November 5, 1996.

3. I attended Wilson Middle School, located in San Diego, California.

4. I attended O'Farrell Junior High School, located in San Diego, California.

5. I received my G.E.D. while in the custody of the San Diego Sheriff's Department in Descanso, California in 1996.

6. My father has been a Legal Permanent Resident ("LPR") for more than 20 years.

7. I have two younger sisters who are United States citizens.

8. My sister, Yasari Alvarez, is ten years younger than I. She is a United States citizen by naturalization.

9. My sister, Yadira Alvarez, is 12 years younger than I. She was born in the United States and is a United States citizen by birth.

10. I have one younger sister and one younger brother who are both LPRs.

11. My sister, Yesenia Alvarez, is five years younger than I. She is an LPR.

12. My brother, Eduardo Alvarez-Meza, is one year younger than I. He is an LPR.

13. As a child and teenager, every week I attended three church services on: Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays.

14. I played soccer while in school.

15. I have never been affiliated with, or been, a member of a gang.

16. As a teenager, I did not drink alcohol or experiment with drugs. Instead, I chose athletics, and was also an employee, working to help support my family.

17. Growing up, my family was very poor.

18. For years I helped my family economically, starting at age 13.

19. At age 13, I started working construction jobs with my dad and brother.

20. At age 16, I worked temporarily as a plumber to pay for my own clothes.

21. The government alleges that on November 5, 1996, Immigration Judge Jack H. Weil ordered that I be deported from the United States to Mexico.

22. There is prejudice to me and my family from the deportation order.

23. I sought, but was denied, voluntary departure.

24. Leading up to the alleged deportation I assisted my dad in construction work and, for a short period of time, I assisted a plumber.

25. I helped my family economically by working with my dad and brother from age 13 to age 17.

26. As the oldest child in my family, I helped my parents by doing chores around the house.

27. As the oldest child in my family, I helped my siblings by watching over and caring for them.

28. Growing up, both of my parents worked outside the home.

29. At the time of my alleged deportation, my father had been an LPR for many years.

30. At the time of my alleged deportation, I was barely 19 years old and did not understand I could appeal the IJ's deportation order.

31. At the time of the alleged deportation I had one (1) dependent child, named Joshua Meza. Joshua was less than one year old at the time of the alleged deportation.

Dated: 6-23-08

Miguel Alvarez

MIGUEL ALVAREZ-MEZA